

UHS Decarbonisation Programme: Making Our Hospitals More Sustainable

University Hospital Southampton (UHS) is delivering one of its largest sustainability programmes to date, helping to reduce carbon emissions, improve energy efficiency and modernise essential infrastructure across our hospitals.

Through a £46 million Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) programme, over several phases of funding, significant improvements have been made across Southampton General Hospital and Princess Anne Hospital, supporting our commitment to providing sustainable healthcare for our patients, visitors and staff.

At a Glance

£46 million	Invested in major energy and infrastructure improvements.
4,881 tCO₂e	Estimated reduction in carbon emissions each year.
Two major hospital sites	Benefiting from upgraded infrastructure and energy systems.
Thousands of energy-efficient upgrades	Delivered across lighting, heating, cooling and ventilation systems.

What Has Changed?

Modernising Hospital Heating

Parts of the hospital's historic steam heating network have been upgraded to a modern low-temperature hot water system. This reduces energy losses and improves the efficiency of heating across the estate.

Brighter, More Efficient Lighting

Thousands of traditional light fittings have been replaced with LED technology. These upgrades use less electricity, last longer and provide improved lighting in clinical and non-clinical areas.

Improved Cooling and Ventilation

Older cooling equipment and large air handling units have been replaced with modern, energy-efficient systems that support laboratories, theatres and other specialist healthcare environments.

Better Performing Buildings

Energy efficiency improvements have been delivered through upgraded windows, insulation and building fabric enhancements, helping to reduce heat loss and improve building performance.

Smarter Energy Management

More than 100 electricity meters are now connected to advanced monitoring systems, giving teams greater visibility of energy use and helping identify opportunities to improve efficiency across the estate.

Generating Energy On-Site

UHS continues to generate a substantial proportion of its electricity through combined heat and power technology and solar photovoltaic systems, helping reduce reliance on externally supplied energy.



Supporting Better Healthcare and a Better Environment

Reducing carbon emissions is an important part of delivering sustainable healthcare. By investing in more efficient buildings and infrastructure, UHS is reducing its environmental impact while ensuring hospital facilities remain reliable, resilient and fit for the future.

These improvements support the NHS ambition to reduce carbon emissions and demonstrate UHS's commitment to creating a healthier environment for the communities we serve.